

bill that is before us today. What we are going to do is we are going to put a number of young individuals, who may very well be working their way through college, out of a job. There are going to be a number of jobs that aren't going to be available to those people. The example that Senator Haberman gave of a family owned business, I would be willing to bet you that 99 out of a 100 times there is always somebody on the premises that is 21, but in case there were not, in case there were not, they had to leave the business and there was a 19-year old there, now, all of a sudden, that is against the law. They can be fined. It is very possible that they could lose their license, I would guess. That doesn't make sense. The law has been this way for awhile, and yet we feel that we need to change it because I guess for some reason the 19 and 20-year olds are no longer reliable or trustworthy citizens in order to serve liquor unless they have supervision, or in order to sell it unless they have supervision. It just doesn't make sense at this time, folks, and I would like to hear some more arguments with regard to why we need to have, (a), the amendment, and, (b), the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Further discussion on the amendment. Senator Morehead, followed by Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Mr. President and members, I think it is probably going to be a little bit impossible to discuss the amendment without talking about the bill, itself, so I will try not to confuse you in doing that, but I want you to know that I am discussing both at this time. The bill, itself, as I indicated says that there must be a 21-year old present when alcoholic beverages are sold for consumption. That does not cut the 19-year olds out of work who are waiting tables or any number of other things as long as there is a 21-year old present. You all are aware of the fact that legal drinking age is 21. I want to point that out. Now Senator Higgins' amendment follows on the heel of the bill and says that if you are going to require a 21-year old to be present when alcohol is sold for on premises consumption, that she feels that it should apply to everyone, both on sale and off sale. So that if you are going to require age 21 for just consumption on the premises, that you should now have a 21-year old present any time alcoholic beverage is sold, either on or off sale. Now there are times that that is going to cause some changes. If you have beer for off sale only, like a 7-Eleven, whatever these are called now, Kwik Shop, whatever it is, or maybe in small town Nebraska where you have a grocery store that has a package